

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application.

As an initial matter, Applicant respectfully requests to receive with the next Office communication a Form PTO-892 indicating that the Examiner has considered U.S. Pat. No. 5,063,596 to Dyke.

Claims 15-18 and 20-34 are pending. In the Office Action, Claims 15-17 and 29-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Russ in combination with Bakhle; and Claims 18, 20-28 and 33-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Russ and Bakhle in further combination with IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin: Cryptographic Microcode Loading Controller for Secure Function. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

In particular, Claim 15 recites, *inter alia*, isolation means operatively connected between an input/output module and an encryption module, the isolation means configured to make sensitive information stored in the encryption module inaccessible to the host computer system. It is apparent that the applied references do not teach or suggest at least these features of Claim 15.

For example, the primary reference, Russ, discloses an architecture that avoids microprocessor contention in favor of RAM contention to increase overall system throughput. *See* Russ, Abstract. Russ is not understood to teach an isolation means configured to make sensitive information stored in the encryption module inaccessible to the host computer system, as recited in Claim 15. In particular, the cited portions of Russ disclose a RAM that includes means for isolating *bus segments* from one another so that bus cycles can occur independently on different buses:

“In accordance with an important aspect of the invention, the four bus segments can function independently of one another, thus allowing bus cycles on one bus to occur independently of cycles on any other bus.

Additionally, the RAM (i.e. memory array and related memory control logic) includes means for isolating the bus segments so that bus cycles occur independently of memory array cycles.”

Russ, col. 2, lines 36-43; FIG. 2.

Furthermore, in contrast to the recited isolation means configured to make sensitive information stored in the encryption module *inaccessible* to the host computer system, Russ teaches that data can be *shared* among all of Russ’ four buses:

“Although the four buses can operate independently, some operations will connect the buses into what amounts to a single bus. The most typical connections involve two buses via the interface modules 30, 32, and 34. For example, module 32 would typically connect the CBUS to the PBUS for microprocessor to PBUS peripheral reference. Similarly, interface module 30 would connect the CBUS to the DBUS for microprocessor 50 to DBUS peripheral reference. Additionally, module 34 would connect the DBUS to UBUS for DMAC transfers with the UNIBUS. In some situations however, three buses may be interconnected, as for example to enable a microprocessor reference of the UNIBUS. In this situation, the CBUS will be connected to the DBUS via module 30 which then connects to the UBUS via module 34.”

Russ, col. 12, lines 46-61.

Thus, Russ does not appear to teach or suggest isolation means operatively connected between an input/output module and an encryption module, the isolation means configured to make sensitive information stored in the encryption module *inaccessible* to the host computer system, as recited in Claim 15.

The secondary references are not understood to remedy the above discussed deficiencies of Russ, nor does the Office Action rely on the secondary references for this teaching.


Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claim 15 distinguishes patentably from the applied references. The remaining Claims 16-18 and 20-34 which

depend therefrom are also believed to be patentable due to their dependence from Claim 15 as well as for the additional features recited in Claims 16-18 and 20-34.

A prompt Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (T2147-906625) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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